

REMARKS

The amendment of claim 1 provides antecedent basis for the term "lacquer" by placing an "a" before its recitation. The omission of "a" before the term "lacquer" is considered a typographical error.

Claim 5 is amended to remove the recitation of a "layer" of thermoplastic material. By removing the term "layer," this claim is brought into consistent form with claim 1 that only recites a "thermoplastic material" without reference to a layer thereof. Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and was deemed to require consistent language with the claim from which it depends.

Applicant maintains that no additional searching is necessitated by the proposed amendment since it corrects a typographical error, and improves the recitation of the inventive subject matter of claim 5 by making it consistent with claim 1.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicant's Attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Date: January 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin J. Cassell", written over a horizontal line.

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